## LAND BOARD AGENDA ITEM August 18, 2008

## APPROVAL FOR ACQUISITION BY DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

**Proposal:** Montana Department of Corrections (DOC) proposes to acquire property in Billings, MT adjacent of the Women's Prison.

**Location:** 2510 7th Avenue South, Billings, Yellowstone County Montana. The property is directly to the east of the Montana Women's Prison, and separates the main prison facility from another parcel owned by DOC.

**Legal Description:** Lots 1-3 and West 55' of Lots 4-12, Block 228, Second Addition to the City of Billings, Yellowstone County, Montana. The lot is 13,494 square feet.

**Process:** The owner placed the property on the market with a realtor. The Department signed a buy/sell with the owner for \$95,000, contingent on a favorable appraisal and Land Board approval.

The property was appraised by an independent appraiser in August 2008.

A notice of the proposed acquisition was published on August 1 and August 8 in the Billings Gazette. The 14-day comment period closes August 15.

A Phase I environmental site assessment found no issues of concern.

**Proposed Use:** The property contains three abandoned structures that were previously residential/rental units. Over time the property has created security issues due to transient activity that has compromised security on the perimeter of the prison facility.

If the acquisition is approved, DOC intends to remove the structures, and gravel and fence the property for employee parking. The acquisition will immediately enhance security, provide necessary parking for employees and provide an option for future expansion.

**Beneficiary:** This will not be trust land.

**Agency Recommendation:** DOC requests approval for acquisition of the property for \$95,000.

## **ACQUISITION BY DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS**

## 2510 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue South Billings, Montana

